

Application No.: 09/821,428

Docket No.: JCLA5383-R

In The Drawings:

Please substitute the attached clean drawing of Fig. 5 for the pending drawing of Fig. 5.

The amended portion is the replacement of the term "FREE" for the term "FRRE".

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REMARKSPresent Status of the Application

The drawing (FIG. 5) is objected to because of typographical errors. The Final Office Action mailed on October 4, 2005 rejected claims 1 and 11 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kozaki (U.S. 5,838,677) in view of Singh (U.S. 6,625,159). The Final Office Action further rejected claim 16 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kazaki in view of Singh in further view of Chiou (U.S. 6,577,625). The Final Office Action also objected claims 2-10, 12-15 and 17-20 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim. In the reply filed on January 9, 2006, Applicants amended the drawing and the claims to overcome the objection. The Advisory Action mailed on January 25, 2006 stated that the proposed amendments in the previous reply will not be entered because they are not deemed to place the application in a better form for appeal.

Applicant has amended claims 1, 6, 7, 11 and 18-20. Applicant has also cancelled claims 5, 16 and 17. Applicant believes now claims 1-4, 6-15 and 18-20 are in an allowable condition and reconsideration of those claims is respectfully requested.

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Discussion of objections and rejections

The Final Office Action rejected claims 1 and 11 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kozaki (U.S. 5,838,677) in view of Singh (U.S. 6,625,159). The Final Office Action also stated that claims 2-10, 12-15 and 17-20 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

In response, Applicant has amended claim 1 to include all limitations of claim 5 and amended claims 6 and 7 to have them depend on claim 1 instead of claim 5. Claim 5 has been cancelled because its limitations have been merged into claim 1. Applicant believes now claim 1 is patentable over Kozaki in view of Singh because, after amendment, claim 1 includes the allowable subject matter of claim 5. Accordingly, claims 2-4 and 6-10 are patentable over Kozaki in view of Singh as a matter of law since claim 1 which they all depend on is patentable over the cited references.

In addition, Applicant has amended claim 11 to include all limitations of claims 16 and 17, and amended claims 18-20 to have them depend on claim 11 instead of claim 17. Claims 16 and 17 have been cancelled because their limitations have been merged into claim 11. Applicant believes now claim 11 is patentable over Kozaki in view of Singh because, after amendment, claim 11 includes the allowable subject matter of claim 17. Accordingly, claims 12-15 and 18-20 are patentable over Kozaki in view of Singh as a matter of law since claim 11 which they all depend on is patentable over the cited references.

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Regarding claim 16, the Final Office Action rejected claim 16 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kazaki in view of Singh in further view of Chiou (U.S. 6,577,625). Since Applicant has cancelled claim 16, there is no need for further discussions over this issue.

For at least the foregoing reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that the independent claims 1 and 11 patently define over the prior art references, and should be allowed. For at least the same reasons, dependent claims 2-4, 6-10, 12-15 and 18-20 patently define over the prior art as well.

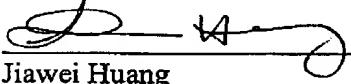
CONCLUSION

For at least the foregoing reasons, it is believed that claims 1-4, 6-15 and 18-20 are in proper condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference would expedite the examination of the above-identified patent application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned.

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Respectfully submitted,
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